metathorax rounded, faintly areolated ; scutellum elevated, smooth, red on the disc ; legs not very stout, posterior femora but slightly swollen ; wings large, hyaline, stigma pale-yellow, areolet rhomboidal ; abdomen polished ; apex of segments one and two narrowly margined with red ; ovipositor exserted, red, sheaths black.

Described from one ♀ captured some years ago, and differs abundantly from *I. carolina*, Ashm.

MESOLEPTUS NIGRICORNIS, Prov. (Add. Faun. Hym. 99), must be removed to the genus *Ctenopelma*. The type which is in my collection has the claws so distinctly pectinate that I do not see how this character was overlooked. I have a second ♀ taken shortly after the first one was described.

PIMPLA ELLOPIÆ, n. sp.—Female, length 10 mm.; black with red abdomen ; face coarsely punctured, with feeble smooth ridge below antennæ, which are long and slender ; thorax shining, punctures shallow ; legs black, anterior femora and tibiæ with pale line, anterior and middle tarsi rufous, base of posterior tibiæ and the tarsi piceous ; abdomen red shining ; punctures fine ; ovipositor half as long as abdomen.

Male, length 8 mm.; posterior femora red, and abdomen slightly darker and not so polished as in the ♀.

Described from one ♀ and one ♂ received from Mr. Fletcher, who bred them from pupæ of *Ellopia somniaria* from Victoria, B. C. (See report of Experimental Farms, 1890, page 177.)

OUR WINTER BEETLES.

BY H. F. WICKHAM, IOWA CITY, IOWA.

Though the winters of Iowa are quite severe, there are, nevertheless, always a few days when the weather is moderate enough to admit of the entomologist getting out for a few hours work at his favourite pursuit. When the sun comes out and the snow disappears in sheltered spots, a little investigation will yield much that is of interest, and throw considerable light on the habits of many of our insects.

Among the Carabidæ to be found in February may be mentioned

Tachys lævus, *Pterostichus patruelis*, *Platynus lutulentus* and *Stenolophus conjunctus*; all except the first quite common under stones and chips—the *Pterostichus* and *Platynus* preferring moist places, while the others like to rest under objects which lie on turf. Some water beetles (*Hydroporus modestus* and *Laccophilus fasciatus*) I have taken in water beneath the ice. What explanation can be advanced to account for their remaining active in such a cold medium when their terrestrial relatives are torpid?

Scydmaenus fossiger and *basalis* may be taken under stones and chips which are resting lightly on turf, in company with *Ctenistes piceus*, *Decarthron abnorme*, and one or two other Pselaphidæ. Staphylinidæ are the most numerous of all, both in species and individuals, and all of the following species may be taken at any time during the winter:—*Pæderus* sp., *Sunius binotatus*, *S. longiusculus*, *Falagria venustula*, *Tachyporus brunneus*, *Stilicus angularis*, *Diochus schaumii*, *Olophrum rotundicolle* and two or three species of *Stenus*, all under stones or chips, some being found also in moss. *Scaphidium quadriguttatum* I also find in moss during cold weather, and in fact have not met with it at any other time. Our Iowa specimens are the variety called *piceum*.

Of Phalacridæ I always find numerous *Olibrus nitidus* and *O. consimilis*, of Corylophidæ *Sericoderus flavidus*, and of Erotylidæ *Languria mozardi*, all under loose stones and chips, in company with *Corticaria pumila*. The remaining families appear to be represented more sparingly if we consider the great number of species that some of them contain.

Cerambycidæ have been rarely reported as winter insects, so I was surprised one New Year's Day, six years ago, to come across one of them alive, resting under a stone. Judging from memory alone (for the specimen has gone out of my possession) it was probably *Leptostylus aculiferus*. Of Chrysomelidæ I take occasionally *Chrysomela suturalis*, and also have *Mantura floridana* down on my list for the year 1886. The only Scarabæid I take is *Aphodius inquinatus*, not a *bona fide* native of our country, though evidently come to stay. The Tenebrionidæ, so characteristic of hot and dry climates are represented only by a *Paratenetus* which, however, is often seen in considerable numbers. A species of *Apion* and *Sphenophorus parvulus*, which are of occasional occurrence, finish the list.

Many species no doubt pass the winter in the perfect state, but being either buried deep in the ground or imbedded in the substance of trees escape our notice, and as few entomologists are sufficiently enthusiastic to make large and deep excavations with so little prospect of return I fear our knowledge of such as are included in the former category will long remain incomplete. My own exertions at the wood pile have yielded only bark beetles (and larvæ) during the winter, though some evidently spend this season more or less deeply imbedded in sound or decaying wood. (See note by Mr. Blanchard, CAN. ENT. VII., p. 97.)

Any comparison of such an incomplete list of our winter insects with the forms known from the inhospitable climate of the far north would be vain; but I would remark the preponderance of Staphylinidæ, as suggestive, when taken in conjunction with the nature of the species of the other families here noted, of at least an apparent similarity.

CHIONOBAS UHLERI.

BY T. D. A. COCKERELL, INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA.

Mr. W. H. Edwards, in his most interesting account of *Chionobas uhleri*, (Butt. N. A., Pl. XII., Vol. 3) remarks that he can find no evidence that it is found in the south of Colorado. It may, therefore, be as well to record that I found it near Swift Creek, in Custer County; and Mr. H. W. Nash informed me that it occurred at Rosita, in the same county. These localities are just north of 38° N. Lat.

With regard to the variation in the ocelli of this and other Satyridæ, it becomes rather difficult to give statistics without the use of some regular formula. Mr. Edwards gives the *number* of ocelli observed in different individuals, but we are left in doubt as to *which* particular ones were present, and which absent.

A convenient method of indicating the exact nature of these variations is to have a series of figures corresponding to the interspaces, numbering from above downwards. If a butterfly had fully developed pupilled ocelli in all the interspaces, the formula would read P. (for primary) 1234567, S. (for secondary) 1234567. When an ocellus was wanting, 0 might be